

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 51**

[FRL-6437-4]

Notice of Proposed Rule Revisions to Emissions Budgets Set Forth in EPA's Finding of Significant Contribution and Rulemaking for Purposes of Reducing Regional Transport of Ozone for the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: On October 27, 1998, EPA published a final action requiring 22 States and the District of Columbia to submit State implementation plan (SIP) revisions to prohibit specified amounts of emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x)—one of the precursors to ozone (smog) pollution—for the purpose of reducing NO_x and ozone transport across State boundaries in the eastern half of the United States. This action is referred to as the NO_x SIP Call.

Subsequent to that rulemaking, three States, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, approached EPA with concerns about the distribution of the emission reduction requirements to the three States. While the States agreed that the amount of the overall emission reductions that EPA was requiring from the three State region was appropriate, the States had concerns about the specific emission reductions that EPA was requiring from each of the three individual States. In particular, the States were concerned that the emission reduction requirements were inconsistent with the emission reductions that those States were requiring in connection with an existing multi-state effort to reduce NO_x and ozone transport across State boundaries in the northeastern portion of the United States.

In response to these concerns, EPA and the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in February 1999. This MOU required EPA to take action to redistribute the NO_x emission reduction requirements among the three States. With this rule EPA is proposing to redistribute the total combined electricity generating stationary source (EGU) budget for the three States.

Subsequent to the signing of the MOU, EPA took a final action that changed the EGU portion of the budgets for the three States in a Technical Amendment to the NO_x SIP Call

published on May 14, 1999. EPA is now proposing action to redistribute the States' budgets. The redistribution that EPA is proposing is slightly different than the redistribution stated in the MOU to reflect and remain consistent with the May 14, 1999 changes to the budgets.

DATES: *Comments:* Written comments must be received by October 5, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Any written comments must be identified with Docket No. A-99-13, must be identified as comments on the direct final rule and companion proposal and must be submitted in duplicate to: EPA Air Docket (6102), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. The docket is available for public inspection and copying between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the address given above. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathryn Petrillo, Acid Rain Division (6204J) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW, Washington DC 20460, telephone number (202) 564-9093; e-mail: petrillo.kathryn@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA is proposing to redistribute the EGU portions of the Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island NO_x Budgets in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed by the three States and EPA in February 1999. In a direct final action that is located in the "Rules and Regulations" section of today's **Federal Register**, we are promulgating the revisions to the State budgets of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island without prior proposal because we view the revisions as noncontroversial and anticipate no adverse comment. We have explained our reasons for this action in the preamble to the direct final rule. If we receive no timely adverse comment, we will not take further action on this proposed rule. If we receive timely adverse comment, we will withdraw the direct final rule, and the direct final rule will not take effect.

We will then address all public comments in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. We will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting must do so at this time. For further information, please see the information provided in the direct final action that is located in the "Rules and Regulations" section of today's **Federal Register**.

Dated: September 7, 1999.

Carol M. Browner,
Administrator.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 80**

[FRL-6431-9]

Regulation of Fuel and Fuel Additives: Extension of California Enforcement Exemptions for Reformulated Gasoline Beyond December 31, 1999

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: With this document, EPA proposes to continue to exempt refiners, importers, and blenders of gasoline subject to the State of California's reformulated gasoline regulations from certain enforcement provisions in the Federal reformulated gasoline regulations. Current exemptions applicable under the Federal Phase I reformulated gasoline program will expire after December 31, 1999, when the Federal Phase II reformulated gasoline program begins. Today's proposed rule would extend the California enforcement exemptions beyond that date. The Agency is publishing a separate direct final rule in today's **Federal Register**, because it does not expect this action to be controversial.

DATES: Comments must be received by October 15, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Any person wishing to submit comments should send them (in duplicate, if possible) to the docket address listed and to Anne Pastorkovich, Attorney/Advisor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Fuels and Energy Division, 401 M Street, SW. (6406J), Washington, DC 20460. Materials relevant to this have been placed in docket [A-99-04] located at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Air Docket Section, Room M-1500, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460. The docket is open for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays. A reasonable fee may be charged for photocopying services.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this proposed rule, contact Anne Pastorkovich, Attorney/Advisor, Fuels & Energy Division, at (202) 564-8987. To notify EPA of an intent to submit an adverse